

A1/ 1. A method for executing methods upon data objects distributed across a plurality of nodes of a system from a special device comprising the steps of:

2 providing a first graphical interface display on said device permitting

3 user selection of a data object category, selection of such category resulting in display

4 of a list of data objects available on the system;

5

6 responding to selection of a first of the data objects present in said list

7 to generate a second graphical interface display on said device of at least a portion of

8 the contents of said first of the data objects together with a display of a plurality of

9 selectable regions, each of said regions representing a first method executable on said

10 first data object; and

11 responding to selection of one of said methods to execute that method

12 upon the first data object and to display a first result of such execution on said device.

1 <sup>SUBC 1</sup> 2 The method of Claim 1 wherein said user selection is achieved by a  
2 point and touch operation executed on the graphical interface display.

1           3.     The method of Claim 1 wherein a second method is executed on said  
2     first result to produce a second result.

4. The method of Claim 3 wherein each of said methods comprises a transaction whereby a set of transactions are built up and executed by interacting with said display, with the results of each transaction being sequentially displayed, and becoming the basis for the next operation in the sequence of transactions.

2 The method of Claim 1 wherein said first method comprises an update of a record

1           6.     The method of Claim 1 wherein said first method comprises a  
2 summation of records.

1           7.     The method of Claim 1 wherein said first method comprises selection  
2     of a record having a particular attribute.

150B C47 8.     The method of Claim 7 wherein said attribute is minimum value.

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1           9.     The method of Claim 3 wherein said second method comprises on  
2     update of a record.

1           10.    The method of Claim 3 wherein said second method comprises a  
2     summation of records.

1           11.    The method of Claim 3 wherein said second method comprises  
2     selection of a record having a particular attribute.

1           12.    The method of Claim 11 wherein said attribute is minimum value.

1           13.    A method comprising the steps of:  
2                    providing a special device with stored software comprising a graphical  
3     user interface and agent/messenger software, said software enabling said device to  
4     access data at one or more remote sites; and  
5                    executing a sequence of transactions upon said data on a display screen  
6     of said special device via visual user interaction with said screen.

1           14.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said software provides user selection  
2     of a data object category, selection of such category resulting in display of a list of  
3     data objects available on the system.

1           15.    The method of Claim 13 wherein one of said transactions comprises an  
2     update of a record.

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1        16.    The method of Claim 13 wherein one of said transactions comprises a  
2 summation of records.

1        17.    The method of Claim 13 wherein one of said transactions comprises  
2 selection of a record having a particular attribute.

1        18.    The method of Claim 17 wherein said attribute is minimum value.

1        19.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said sequence of transactions  
2 includes a search followed immediately by display of the results of the search on the  
3 display of said special device.

1        20.    The method of Claim 19 wherein said search is conducted on  
2 heterogeneous data stored across a plurality of sites.

1        21.    The method of Claim 19 wherein said sequence of transactions further  
2 includes a sort on the results of said search with immediate display of the results of  
3 said sort on the display of said special device.

1        22.    The method of Claim 13 wherein said special device is a palm held  
2 device.

1        23.    An apparatus comprising:  
2                a special device having a display screen associated therewith; and  
3                means for executing a sequence of transactions upon said display  
4 screen via visual point and touch interaction with said screen, each transaction of said  
5 sequence being based on the result of execution of a previous transaction and wherein  
6 at least one of said transactions is executed upon data stored across a plurality of  
7 remote storage locations.

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1           24.    The apparatus of Claim 23 wherein one of said transactions comprises  
2   user selection of a data object category, selection of such category resulting in display  
3   of a list of available data objects.

SUB 13

2           25.    An apparatus for executing methods upon data objects distributed  
3                   across a plurality of nodes of a system comprising:  
4                   a special device having a display associated therewith;  
5                   means providing a first graphical user interface on said display, said  
6   interface permitting user selection of a data object category, selection of such category  
7   resulting in display of a list of data objects available on the system;  
8                   means for responding to selection of a first of the data objects present  
9   in said list to generate a second graphical user interface on said device of at least a  
10   portion of the contents of said first of the data objects together with a display of a  
11   plurality of selectable regions, each of said regions representing a first method  
12   executable on said first data object; and  
13                   means for responding to selection of one of said methods to execute  
14   that method upon the first data object and to display a first result of such execution on  
15   said device.

SUB 13

1           26.    The method of Claim 24 wherein said user selection is achieved by a  
2   point and touch operation executed on the graphical interface display.

SUB 13

2           27.    A storage medium encoded with machine readable computer program  
3   code, said code comprising graphical user interface and agent/messenger software for  
4   enabling a special device to perform the following steps:  
5                   access data stored at one or more remote sites; and  
6                   execute a sequence of transactions upon said data on a display screen  
7   of said special device via user interaction with said screen.

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28. The method of Claim 27 wherein said software provides user selection  
of a data object category, selection of such category resulting in display of a list of  
data objects available on the system.

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